

# PLE

PLEBE'AN. *n. f.* [*plebeius*, Fr. *plebeius*, Lat.] One of the lower people.

Let him  
Hoist thee up to the shouting plebeians.  
You're plebeians, if they be senators.  
Upon the least intervals of peace, the quarrels between the nobles and the plebeians would revive.

PLEBE'AN. *adj.*  
1. Popular; consisting of mean persons.  
As swine are to gardens, so are tumults to parliaments, and plebeian concourses to publick counsels.

2. Belonging to the lower ranks.  
He through the midst unmark'd,  
In shew plebeian angel militant  
Of lowest order.

3. Vulgar; low; common.  
To apply notions philosophical to plebeian terms; or to say, where the notions cannot fitly be reconciled, that there wanteth a term or nomenclature for it, as the ancients used, they be but shifts of ignorance.

The differences of mouldable and not mouldable, scissible and not scissible are plebeian notions.  
Dishonour not the vengeance I design'd.  
A queen! and own a base plebeian mind!

PLEDGE. *n. f.* [*pleige*, Fr. *piegare*, Italian.]  
1. Any thing put to pawn.  
2. A gage; any thing given by way of warrant or security; a pawn.

These men at the first were only pitied; the great humility, zeal and devotion, which appeared to be in them, was in all men's opinion a pledge of their harmless meaning.  
If none appear to prove upon thy person  
Thy heinous, manifest and many treasons;  
There is my pledge, I'll prove it on thy heart.

That voice their liveliest pledge  
Of hope in fears and dangers.  
Money is necessary both for counters and for pledges, and carrying with it even reckoning and security.  
Hymen shall be aton'd, shall join two hearts,  
And Aribert shall be the pledge of peace.

3. A surety; a bail; an hostage.  
What purpose could there be of treason, when the Guinians offered to leave pledges, fix for one.  
Good sureties will we have for thy return,  
And at thy pledges peril keep thy day.

TO PLEDGE. *v. a.* [*pleiger*, Fr. *piegiare*, Italian.]  
1. To put in pawn.  
Asleep and naked as an Indian lay,  
An honest factor stole a gem away;  
He pledg'd it to the knight; the knight had wit,  
So kept the diamond.

2. To give as warrant or security.  
To secure by a pledge.  
I accept her;  
And here to pledge my vows, I give my hand.

4. To invite to drink, by accepting the cup or health after another.  
The fellow, that  
Parts bread with him, and pledges  
The breath of him in a divided draught,  
Is th' readiest man to kill him.

To you noble lord of Westmoreland.  
—I pledge your grace.  
That hexanymous orator began the king of Homebia's health; he presently pledg'd it.

PLEDGET. *n. f.* [*plagget*, Dutch.] A small mass of lint.  
I applied a pledget of balsicon.

PLE'ADS. *n. f.* [*pleiades*, Lat. *πλειάδες*.] A northern constellation.  
The pleiades before him danc'd,  
Shedding sweet influence.

Then sailors quarter'd heav'n, and found a name  
For pleiads, hyads and the northern car.

PLE'NARILY. *adv.* [from *plenary*.] Fully; completely.  
The cause is made a plenary cause, and ought to be determined plenarily.

PLENARY. *adj.* [from *plenus*, Lat.] Full; complete.  
I am far from denying that compliance on my part, for plenary consent it was not, to his destruction.

The cause is made a plenary cause.  
A treatise on a subject should be plenary or full, so that nothing may be wanting, nothing which is proper omitted.

PLENARY. *n. f.* Decisive procedure.  
A bare institution without induction does not make a plenary against the king, where he has a title to present.

PLE'NARINESS. *n. f.* [from *plenary*.] Fulness; completeness.  
PLE'NUNARY. *adj.* [from *plenunarius*, Lat.] Relating to the full moon.  
If we add the two Egyptian days in every month, the interlunary and plenunary exemptions, there would arise above an hundred more.

# PLE

PLE'NIPOTENCE. *n. f.* [from *plenus* and *potentia*, Lat.] Fulness of power.

PLE'NIPOTENT. *adj.* [from *plenipotens*, Lat.] Invested with full power.  
My substitutes I send you, and create  
Plenipotents on earth, of matchless might  
Issuing from me.

PLENIPOTENT'ARY. *n. f.* [from *plenipotentarius*, Fr.] A negotiator invested with full power.  
They were only the plenipotentiary monks of the patriarchal monks.

PLE'NIST. *n. f.* [from *plenus*, Lat.] One that holds all space to be full of matter.  
Those spaces, which the vacuists would have empty, because devoid of air, the plenists do not prove replenished with subtle matter by any sensible effects.

PLE'NITUDE. *n. f.* [from *plenitudo*, from *plenus*, Lat. *plenitudo*, Fr.]  
1. Fulness; the contrary to vacuity.  
If there were every where an absolute plenitude and density without any pores between the particles of bodies, all bodies of equal dimensions would contain an equal quantity of matter, and consequently be equally ponderous.

2. Repletion; animal fulness; plenthy.  
Relaxation from plenitude is cured by spare diet.  
3. Exuberance; abundance.  
The plenitude of the pope's power of dispensing was the main question.

4. Completeness.  
The plenitude of William's fame  
Can no accumulated stores receive.

PLE'NTIOUS. *adj.* [from *plentius*.]  
1. Copious; exuberant; abundant.  
Author of evil, unknown till thy revolt  
Now plenteous these acts of hateful strife.

Two plenteous fountains the whole prospect crown'd,  
This through the gardens leads its streams around.

2. Fruitful; fertile.  
Take up the fifth part of the land in the seven plentius years.  
Lab'ring the soil and reaping plenteous crop.

PLE'NTIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *plentius*.] Copiously; abundantly; exuberantly.  
Thy due from me is tears,  
Which nature, love and filial tenderness  
Shall, O dear father, pay thee plenteously.

God created the great whales and each  
Soul living, each that crept, which plentiously  
The waters generated.  
God proves us in this life, that he may the more plentiously reward us in the next.

PLE'NTIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *plentius*.] Abundance; fertility.  
The seven years of plentiness in Egypt were ended.

PLE'NTIFUL. *adj.* [from *plentius* and *full*.] Copious; abundant; exuberant; fruitful.  
To Amalthea he gave a country, bending like a horn;  
whence the tale of Amalthea's plentiful horn.

He that is plentiful in expenses, will hardly be preferred from decay.  
If it be a long winter, it is commonly a more plentiful year.

When they had a plentiful harvest, the farmer had hardly any corn.  
Alcibiades was a young man of noble birth, excellent education and a plentiful fortune.

PLE'NTIFULLY. *adv.* [from *plentius*.] Copiously; abundantly.  
They were not multiplied before, but they were at that time plentifully increased.

Born is plentifully furnished with water, there being a great multitude of fountains.  
PLE'NTIFULNESS. *n. f.* [from *plentius*.] The state of being plentiful; abundance; fertility.

PLENTY. *n. f.* [from *plenus*, full.]  
1. Abundance; such a quantity as is more than enough.  
Dear nurse of arts, plentier and joyful birth.

What makes land, as well as other things, dear, is plenty of buyers, and but few sellers; and so plenty of sellers and few buyers makes land cheap.

2. Fruitfulness; exuberance.  
The teeming clouds  
Descend in gladness plenty o'er the world.

3. It is used, I think, barbarously for plentiful.  
To graze with thy calves,  
Where water is plenty.

4. A state in which enough is had and enjoyed.  
Ye shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the Lord.

# PLI

PLE'ONASM. *n. f.* [*pleonasmus*, Fr. *pleonasmus*, Lat.] A figure of rhetoric, by which more words are used than are necessary.  
PLESH. *n. f.* [A word used by *Spenser* instead of *plash*, for the convenience of rhyme.] A puddle; a boggy marsh.

Out of the wound the red blood flow'd fresh,  
That underneath his feet soon made a purple plesh. *Spenser.*  
PLETHORA. *n. f.* [from *πλεθωρα*.] The state in which the vessels are fuller of humours than is agreeable to a natural state or health; arises either from a diminution of some natural evacuations, or from debauch and feeding higher or more in quantity than the ordinary powers of the viscera can digest: evacuations and exercise are its remedies.

The diseases of the fluids are a plethora, or too great abundance of laudable juices.  
PLETHORE'TICK. *adj.* [from *plethora*.] Having a full habit.

PLETHORICK. *adj.* [from *plethora*.] Having a full habit.  
The fluids, as they consist of spirit, water, salts, oil and terrestrial parts, differ according to the redundancy of the whole or of any of these; and therefore the plethorick are phlegmatick, oily, saline, earthy or dry.

PLETHORY. *n. f.* [*plethores*, Fr. from *πλεθωρα*.] Fulness of habit.  
In too great repletion, the elastic force of the tube throws the fluid with too great a force, and subjects the animal to the diseases depending upon a plethory.

PLEVIN. *n. f.* [*plevina*, Fr. *plevina*, law Lat.] In law, a warrant or assurance. See REPLEVIN.  
PLEURISY. *n. f.* [*πλευρις*; *pleurisy*, Fr. *pleuritis*, Lat.] Pleurisy is an inflammation of the pleura, though it is hardly distinguishable from an inflammation of any other part of the breast, which are all from the same cause, a stagnated blood; and are to be remedied by evacuation, suppuration or expectoration, or all together.

PLEURITICK. *adj.* [from *pleurisy*.]  
PLEURITICK. *adj.* [from *pleurisy*.]  
1. Diffracted with a pleurisy.  
The viscous matter, which lies like leather upon the extravasated blood of pleuritic people, may be dissolved by a due degree of heat.

2. Denoting a pleurisy.  
His blood was pleuritic, it had neither colour nor consistence.

PLYABLE. *adj.* [*pliable*, from *plier*, Fr. to bend.]  
1. Easy to be bent; flexible.  
Though an act be never so sinful, they will strip it of its guilt, and make the very law so pliable and bendings, that it shall be impossible to be broke.

Whether the different motions of the animal spirits may have any effect on the mould of the face, when the lineaments are pliable and tender, I shall leave to the curious.  
2. Flexible of disposition; easy to be persuaded.

PLYABLENESS. *n. f.* [from *pliable*.]  
1. Flexibility; easiness to be bent.  
2. Flexibility of mind.  
Compare the ingenuous pliancy to virtuous counsels in youth, as it comes fresh out of the hands of nature, with the confirmed obliquity in most sorts of sin, that is to be found in an aged finger.

PLIANCY. *n. f.* [from *pliant*.] Easiness to be bent.  
Had not exercise been necessary, nature would not have given such an activity to the limbs, and such a pliancy to every part, as produces those compressions and extensions necessary for the preservation of such a system.

PLIANT. *adj.* [*pliant*, French.]  
1. Bending; tough; flexible; flexible; lithe; limber.  
An anatomist promised to dissect a woman's tongue, and examine whether the fibres may not be made up of a finer and more pliant thread.

2. Easy to take a form.  
Particles of heav'nly fire,  
Or earth but new divided from the sky,  
And pliant still retain'd th' ethereal energy.

As the wax melts that to the flame I hold,  
Pliant and warm may fill her heart remain,  
Soft to the print, but ne'er turn hard again.

3. Easily complying.  
In languages the tongue is more pliant to all sounds, the joints more supple to all feats of activity, in youth than afterwards.

Those, who bore bulwarks on their backs,  
Now practise ev'ry pliant gesture,  
Op'ning their trunk for ev'ry tester.

4. Easily persuaded.  
The will was then ductile and pliant to right reason, it met the dictates of a clarified understanding halfway.

PLIANTNESS. *n. f.* [from *pliant*.] Flexibility; toughness.  
Greatness of weight, closeness of parts, fixation, pliancy or softness.

PLIATURE. *n. f.* [*pliatra*, from *plier*, Lat.] Fold; double.  
PLICATION. *n. f.* [*pliation* is used somewhere in *Clarissa*.]  
PLIERS. *n. f.* [from *ply*.] An instrument by which any thing is laid hold on to bend it.

# PLO

Pliers are of two sorts, flat-nosed and round-nosed; their office is to hold and fasten upon a small work, and to fit it in its place: the round-nosed pliers are used for turning or boring wire or small plate into a circular form.

I made a detention by a small pair of pliers.  
To PLIGHT. *v. a.* [*plichten*, Dutch.]  
1. To pledge; to give as surety.

He plight'd his right hand  
Unto another love, and to another land.

Met the night mare, and her name told,  
Bid her alight, and her troth plight. *Shakspeare. King Lear.*  
I again in Henry's royal name,  
Give thee her hand for sign of plight'd faith.

Lo, thou be my detence, I, thy delight.  
New loves you seek,  
New vows to plight, and plight'd vows to break.

2. To braid; to weave. [from *plio*, Lat. whence to ply or bend, and *plight*, *pleight* or *plait*, a fold or flexure.]  
Her head she fondly would aguish  
With gaudie girlonds, or fresh flowrets dight  
About her neck; or rings of rushes plight.

I took it for a fairy vision  
Of some gay creatures of the element,  
That in the colours of the rainbow live,  
And play i' th' plight'd clouds.

PLIGHT. *n. f.* [This word *Skinner* imagines to be derived from the Dutch, *plicht*, office or employment; but *Tristram* observes, that *plike*, Saxon, signifies distress or pressing danger; whence, I suppose, *plight* was derived, it being generally used in a bad sense.]  
1. Condition; state.  
When as the careful dwarf had told,  
And made ensample of their mournful plight  
Unto his master, he no longer would  
There dwell in peril of like painful plight.

I think myself in better plight for a lender than you are.  
Befeech your highness,  
My women may be with me; for, you see,  
My plight requires it.

They in lowliest plight repentant stood  
Praying.  
Thou must not here  
Lie in this miserable loathsome plight.

Most perfect hero tried in heav'ly plight  
Of labours huge and hard.  
2. Good case.  
Who abuteth his cattle and starves them for meat,  
By carting or plowing, his gain is not great;  
Where he that with labour can use them aright,  
Hath gain to his comfort, and cattle in plight.

3. Pledge; gage. [from the verb.]  
That lord, whose hand must take my plight, shall carry  
Half my love with him, half my care and duty.

4. [From *plight*.] A fold; a pucker; a double; a purtle; a plait.  
Yclad, for fear of scorching air,  
All in a silken canvas, lilly white,  
Purified upon with many a folded plight.

PLINTH. *n. f.* [*πλινθία*.] In architecture, is that square member which serves as a foundation to the base of a pillar; Vitruvius calls the upper part or abacus of the Tuscan pillar, a plinth, because it resembles a square tile: moreover, the same denomination is sometimes given to a thick wall, wherein there are two or three bricks advanced in form of a plait-band.

TO PLOD. *v. n.* [*plaghen*, Dutch. *Skinner*.]  
1. To toil; to moid; to drudge; to travel.  
A plodding diligence brings us sooner to our journey's end, than a fluttering way of advancing by starts.

He knows better than any man, what is not to be written; and never hazards himself so far as to fall, but plods on deliberately, and, as a grave man ought, puts his task before him.

Th' unletter'd christian, who believes in grois,  
Plods on to heav'n, and ne'er is at a loss.

2. To travel laboriously.  
Rogues, plod away o' the hoof, seek shelter, pack. *Slaw.*  
If one of mean affairs  
May plod it in a week, why may not I

Glide thither in a day.  
Hast thou not held my stirrup?  
Bare-headed, plodded by my foot-cloth mule,  
And thought thee happy when I took my head?

That barefoot plod I the cold ground upon,  
With faintest vow my faults to have amended.

3. To study